

Keswick Urban District Council



Library

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health
John Patterson, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

FOR THE YEAR 1964

Together with the Summary of Work
of the Public Health Inspector


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Keswick Urban District Council

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
KESWICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my 10th Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health to Keswick Urban District Council. Births remain at much the same level, but it is sad to relate a maternal death classified as due to pregnancy, child birth, or abortion.

Total cancer deaths showed a large increase, this being mainly due to lesions of the lungs and alimentary canal.

The death from leukaemia has no environmental significance.

It is gratifying that once again, in a district concerned with the tourist industry, there have not been any outbreaks of food poisoning or associated illnesses.

The second part of this report has been prepared by Mr. Lusher and shows the work undertaken and efficiently carried out by his department during the year.

I would record my appreciation of the co-operation and help which I have received from him at all times and would express my thanks for the help given me by the Clerk and his staff and the continued kindness and helpfulness of the members of the Council.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,
JOHN PATTERSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

Statistical and Social Conditions of the Area

Area (acres) : 1,272.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population :—4,410.
(mid-1963) — 4,600 ; (mid-1962) — 4,590 ; (mid-1961) — 4,630 ;
(mid-1960) — 4,600.

Number of inhabited houses : 1,654.

Rateable Value : £187,957.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate : £748.

The Tables of Vital Statistics are set out below, showing birth rates, death rates and rates for maternal and infantile mortality.

Crude birth and death rates are corrected by means of an Area Comparability Factor supplied each year by the Registrar General. They allow for varying age and sex distribution of the population in different areas and enable comparisons to be made with figures for other areas.

This year the factor for births is 1.12 and for deaths 0.83. The total live births were 61. This corresponds to a birth rate of 13.8 per thousand of the population (15.4 corrected), compared with 13.7 in 1963. Eight of the births were illegitimate.

There were 2 deaths of infants under 1 year of age, giving an infantile mortality rate of 32.8. There was one still birth.

There was one death due to pregnancy and childbirth, but no deaths from tuberculosis.

Deaths at all ages were 85, an increase of 4 on 1963.

Deaths from cancer increased from 7 in 1963 to 15 in 1964.

Vital Statistics

Population of the URBAN DISTRICT (mid-1964)—4,410.

LIVE BIRTHS—					Grand	Rate per 1,000 pop.	
		Males	Females	Total	Total	uncor- rected	cor- rected
1959	Legitimate	23	32	55	59	12.8	12.8
	Illegitimate	1	3	4			
1960	Legitimate	26	32	58	58	12.6	12.6
	Illegitimate	0	0	0			
1961	Legitimate	35	32	67	72	15.6	15.6
	Illegitimate	2	3	5			
1962	Legitimate	20	19	39	42	9.0	9.0
	Illegitimate	1	2	3			
1963	Legitimate	30	26	56	63	13.7	15.3
	Illegitimate	3	4	7			
1964	Legitimate	30	23	53	61	13.8	15.4
	Illegitimate	1	7	8			

STILL BIRTHS—		Rate per 1,000 of				
		Males	Females	Total	Total	Population
1959	Legitimate	0	0	0		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0.0
1960	Legitimate	0	2	2		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	2	0.43
1961	Legitimate	0	0	0		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0.0
1962	Legitimate	1	1	2		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0.0
1963	Legitimate	0	0	0		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0.0
1964	Legitimate	1	0	1		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	1	0.22

DEATHS—					Rate per 1,000 pop.	Rate per 1,000 pop.
Year	Males	Females	Total	uncorrected	corrected	
1959	50	42	92	19.7	16.9	
1960	34	31	65	14.1	12.2	
1961	41	45	86	18.5	15.9	
1962	37	35	72	15.8	13.6	
1963	40	41	81	17.6	14.6	
1964	45	40	85	19.3	16.0	

MATERNAL MORTALITY—

			Deaths	Rate per 1,000 births
1959	...	...	0	0.0
1960	...	...	0	0.0
1961	...	...	0	0.0
1962	...	...	0	0.0
1963	...	...	0	0.0
1964	...	...	1	16.4

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES—

		Deaths of infants unde 1 yr.	All infants per 1,000 live births	Legitimate infants per 1,000 live legitimate births	Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live illegitimate births
1959	...	1	17	18	0
1960	...	1	17	17	0
1961	...	2	28	28	0
1962	...	0	0	0	0
1963	...	3	48.6	53.5	0
1964	...	2	32.8	37.7	0

TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATE—

Year	Pulmonary T.B. Deaths	Other T.B. Deaths	Total T.B. Deaths	Pulmonary T.B. death rate per 1,000 pop.	Total T.B. death rate per 1,000 pop.
1959	0	1	1	0.0	0.21
1960	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
1961	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
1962	1	0	1	0.2	0.2
1963	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
1964	0	0	0	0.0	0.0

TABLE OF COMPARATIVE RATES (uncorrected)—

Birth Rate :	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
England and Wales	16.4	16.5	17.1	17.4	18.0	18.2	18.4
County of Cumberland	17.6	17.7	18.0	17.6	18.3	17.7	18.4
Urban Districts of Cumb.	18.0	17.9	18.5	17.8	18.3	16.8	18.8
Keswick Urban	13.5	12.8	12.6	15.6	9.0	13.7	13.8
Death Rate :							
England and Wales	11.7	11.6	11.5	12.0	11.9	12.2	11.3
County of Cumberland	12.1	11.9	12.0	12.3	12.2	12.5	11.8
Urban Districts of Cumb.	12.6	12.6	12.1	12.6	12.3	11.7	11.5
Keswick Urban	15.4	19.7	14.1	18.5	15.8	17.6	19.3
Infantile Mortality :							
England and Wales	22.5	22.0	21.7	21.4	21.4	20.9	20.0
County of Cumberland	28.1	21.09	23.1	22.6	26.4	22.0	18.3
Urban Districts of Cumb.	35.1	23.2	29.7	22.4	20.4	15.0	20.5
Keswick Urban	31.8	17.0	17.0	28.0	0.0	48.6	32.8

Causes of Death in 1964

Causes of Death						Male	Female
All causes						45	40
1.	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	...	...	...	...	—	—
2.	Tuberculosis, Other	...	...	...	...	—	—
3.	Syphilitic Disease	...	...	...	...	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—
6.	Menigoco-coccal infections	...	...	...	...	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	1	—
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	—	—
11.	„ „ lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	3	1
12.	„ „ breast	...	...	...	...	—	—
13.	„ „ uterus	...	...	...	...	—	—
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	5	5
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	—	1
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	1	—
17.	Vascular Lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	2	9
18.	Coronary Disease, angina	...	...	...	...	17	7
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	—	1
20.	Other heart diseases	...	...	...	...	5	9
21.	Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	1	—
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	—	—
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	2	—
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	1	—
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	—	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	1	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	—	2
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	1	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	1	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	—	1
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	—	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	3	3
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	...	...	1	—
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	—	—
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	—	—
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	—	—

Infantile Mortality

Deaths under one year showing varying causes and ages:—

Cause of death	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	1—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total under 1 year
Prematurity	1				1					1
Congenital Heart Disease	1				1					1
Totals	2				2					2

Senile Death Rate

Age at Death	Males	Females	Total
65-70 years ...	8	4	12
70-75 years ..	9	3	12
75-80 years ...	11	7	18
80-85 years ...	6	6	12
85-90 years ...	2	4	6
90-95 years ...	1	6	7
Total	37	30	67

Senile Death Rate 78% of total deaths (1963—70%)

Deaths from Violence

Cause	No. of deaths	% of all causes	Rate per 1,000 of population
Suicide	1964	0	0.0
	1963	1	0.2
Road Traffic	1964	1	0.2
Accidents	1963	0	0.0
Other Violence	1964	0	0.0
	1963	1	0.2
Total	1964	1	0.2
	1963	2	0.4

Deaths from Cancer

System	Primary organ site of disease	Males	Females
Alimentary	Liver	0	1
	Colon	4	3
	Post-ericoid	0	1
Tegumental	Skin	1	0
Respiratory	Bronchus	3	1
Circulatory	Blood (Leukaemia chronic)	0	1
Total		8	7

Age at Death	Males	Females	Total
Between 40 and 50 years	1	0	1
Between 50 and 60 years	1	1	2
Between 60 and 70 years	1	4	5
Between 70 and 80 years	5	2	7
	—	—	—
Totals	8	7	15

Cancer Death Rate 3.4 per 1,000 population (1963—1.5 per 1,000 popuation).

Approximately 1 death in 6 was due to Cancer.

Infectious Diseases

The total number of cases of infectious disease notified in 1964 was 38. 2 of tuberculosis, 36 of measles.

There were no notifications or deaths from Diphtheria, Poliomyelitis, Typhoid Fever, Puerperal Pyrexia, or Food Poisoning.

Cases on the Tuberculosis Register

	Males	Females	Totals
Pulmonary ...	14	5	19
Non-pulmonary ...	1	4	5
	—	—	—
All Cases ...	15	9	24

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus.

Immunisation against these diseases is usually combined by means of a triple vaccine, and during the year 114 children completed a full course of three injections. Booster doses were given to 33 children.

POLIOMYELITIS.

The figures show those having had 2 injections of Salk Vaccine, those having completed a course of three, and a selected age group of all school children thought to be at special risk between the ages of 6 and 12 years. All protection now is by means of the Sabin oral vaccine.

B.C.G. Tuberculosis.

Mantoux skin testing and B.C.G. vaccination was continued in 1964, the age groups being those born in 1950 and 1951. The table gives detailed figures. 178 children were tested and 15 (11.8%) were found to be positive reactors.

The remaining 161 negative reactors were given B.C.G. vaccination. This figure of 11.8% for positive reactors shows a welcome decrease and in keeping with the average for the county as a whole.

Smallpox.

A total of 7 vaccinations were carried out during the year, the majority being in infants.

The vaccination of adults will be performed at the County Council clinic upon request.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination, Year 1964

Year of Birth	Pre 1948	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964 under	Total
Age	over 16	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1	
No. who have completed a primary course of 2 injections at 31/12/64.																			
	23	—	—	—	—	1	11	—	1	1	3	2	4	8	34	36	47	—	171
No. who have completed a full course of 3 injections at 31/12/64.																			
	594	49	31	6	7	10	4	5	6	11	20	28	30	35	13	—	—	—	849
No. who have completed a full course of 4 injections at 31/12/64.																			
	6	—	12	46	42	33	30	32	34	24	17	9	3	4	3	—	—	—	295

Results of Mantoux Testing and B.C.G. Vaccination to 31-12-64 of Children born in 1950 and 1951.

No. of Children on roll	225	No. of consents for treatment	196	Mantoux tested	178	Absent	18	Found Negative	162	Given B.C.G. Vaccination	161	Found Positive	15	%	11.8	Satisfactory	15	Unsatisfactory	1	Already known cases	—
No. referred to chest clinic for large film and found to be																					

Keswick Urban District Council

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
KESWICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration my 14th Annual Report on public health work carried out in my department, during the year ended 31st December, 1964.

I would like to record my appreciation of the co-operation which I have received from my colleagues on the staff of the Council and to Members of the Council I would offer my thanks for their consideration and support.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

RALPH LUSHER,

Public Health Inspector & Surveyor to the Council.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

- (1) Part-time Medical Officer of Health.
- (2) One Public Health Inspector, Mr. Ralph Lusher, M.A.P.H.I., M.Inst.H.E. being also the Surveyor and Water Engineer.
Mr. T. Thwaite was appointed assistant to the Surveyor and Public Health Inspector and he took up his duties in November 1964.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

WATER SUPPLY

The supply from the ghylls was ample at all times and no difficulty was experienced in maintaining supplies.

The Consulting Engineers continued their work in the preparation of a scheme to be undertaken jointly with the West Cumberland Water Board, for the improvement of the water supplies in Keswick and adjoining parishes.

33 samples of water were submitted for analysis during the year, 32 of which were regarded by the analyst as highly satisfactory.

All houses in the district now have a water supply inside the house.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The work on the re-construction and improvement of the Sewage Works continued and is scheduled to be completed at the end of this year. There are signs, however, that the time schedule is not being maintained.

The sewers generally in the district are adequate and give very little trouble. The sewers are arranged on a combined system with no separate storm water drains. During times of storm the main sewers are heavily surcharged with surface water and as more development takes place it will become necessary either to enlarge the trunk sewers or to take steps to reduce the amount of surface water entering them.

Scavenging and Removal of Refuse

Three Karrier Bantam refuse wagons are employed but two of these are used part time on other work.

Very few complaints are received and this service is generally satisfactory.

Refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping and a full time attendant is in charge of the refuse tip. A small bulldozer is provided and this is a great help in securing better compaction and more effective covering of the refuse.

The salvage of paper and cardboard was continued during the year and comparative figures of sales in the past five years are as follows :—

1960	171 tons sold for	£1,196
1961	175 tons sold for	£1,213
1962	156 tons sold for	£963
1963	162 tons sold for	£973
1964	133 tons sold for	£807

The price paid for paper was increased from £6 to £6-10-0d. per ton in November, 1964.

Sanitary Inspection of the District

Summary of Inspections during the year :—

Premises inspected during the year	...	...	...	...	180
Nuisances or defects discovered	...	...	...	...	65
do. do. remedied after informal action	...	...	...	...	50
do. do. remedied after statutory notice	...	...	...	...	0
Housing Inspections under Public Health or Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	175
Factory Inspections	...	...	...	...	9

A total of 46 factories are entered in the Factories Register, 9 inspections were made of these premises during the year.

THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, came into force during the year and the following is a report of the work done in connection with this :—

The preliminary survey under the above Act has now been completed with the exception of premises undergoing alteration, some closed for the season and several places the owners of which have been slow in registering. To date 161 premises have been registered. Lists of defects or points of non compliance have been handed to the persons responsible.

These points include the following :—

- 38 premises need running warm or hot water.
- 56 thermometers are required.
- 62 first aid boxes are required.
- 70 handrail and safety rails need to be fitted.
- 10 premises have toilet facilities which could be improved.
- 6 premises need better washing facilities.
- 8 machines need additional guards.

In addition to the above, 42 miscellaneous requirements have been requested. These include several which are desirable from the hygiene point of view, apart from being necessary for compliance with the Act.

In general full co-operation has been given from the various people responsible for the staffs and premises. Many have expressed their satisfaction with the aim of the legislation.

By and large as would be expected in a residential town like Keswick, a good standard is general. The exceptions, however, do justify in my opinion, the improvements necessary.

It is of interest to note that 568 persons are employed in premises covered by these regulations. 369 women and 199 men.

Their place of work is as follows.

	Women	Men
Offices	69	63
Retail Shops	212	86
Wholesale Dept. Warehouses ...	2	9
Catering Establishments	86	41

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The Council employees undertake treatment as recommended. The sewers were treated several times during the year. Treatments were also carried out at 11 private houses.

The refuse tip is sited very close to the Council's Derwentwater Caravan and Camping Sites and pest control is therefore very important in this area. The Council engaged Messrs. Rentokil Laboratories Ltd., with a Contract to deal with rats and flies and these pests were kept well under control during the year.

Housing Appendix

STATISTICS

1.—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

1. (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	35
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	83
2	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation	0
3.	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	6

2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices: Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	4
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CARAVAN SITES

There are four licensed caravan sites in the district and these were inspected on many occasions.

The Derwentwater Caravan Site which is being developed by the Council continued to operate successfully. A further extension to this Caravan Site was prepared during the year consisting of an additional 30 caravan sites with a new sanitary block. This sanitary block is to be constructed to a good standard and as the land on which it is to be sited consists of an old refuse tip, the building will be in the form of a steel frame with the staunchions being carried down about nine feet below the floor level to a solid foundation. All the drains are to be carried on reinforced concrete beams supported by these staunchions. The drainage from the Sanitary block will be taken to a septic tank and the effluent will be pumped through a 3" P.V.C. main to the main sewerage system.

CAMPING SITE

The Derwentwater Camping Site continued to operate successfully and a further extension to the toilet block was carried out. The block now contains 10 water closets, 4 showers, 12 wash basins, drying room, and laundry for females; and 7 water closets, urinal accommodation, 4 showers, 11 wash basins and drying room for males.

The septic tank taking the drainage from this site was modified and a 3" P.V.C. rising main was laid from a small pumping station built over the septic tank to the Council's main sewerage system. The effluent from this tank is pumped through this main and the main has been designed to take the effluent from all further extensions to the Caravan and Camping Sites.

Housing

13 privately owned houses were built in 1964.

FLATS AT THE HEADLANDS

Tenders were accepted for the erection of 42 flats on the disused allotments at the Headlands in the sum of £77,935 and work was commenced on this project.

DERWENT CLOSE FLATLETS

The 20 aged persons flatlets at Derwent Close continued to serve a very useful purpose.

The Council own a total of 366 houses, of which 235 are post war houses.

Improvement Grants

11 applications were received for Improvement Grants and Grants were made in all cases. All the applications were in respect of owner occupied premises.

This is a reduction of 10 applications over last year's figure.

Rent Act, 1957

No applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair and no action was taken by the Council under this Act.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

MILK AND DAIRIES

20 milk samples were submitted to the analyst.

Under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960, the duty to licence dealers for bottling or dealing in milk of any special designation was transferred to County Councils.

Under a local arrangement made in this County, the inspection work will still be carried out by the local Public Health Inspectors and 20 such inspections were made during the year.

Meat and Other Foods

There are no slaughter houses in the Urban District, all meat is transported from abattoirs outside the district.

The following is a brief summary of food stuffs for which certificates of unsoundness were issued by the Public Health Inspector.

297 lbs. Cooked Meat, 100 Sausages, 22 Fish Cakes, and 129 tins of various foods. These food stuffs were removed by the refuse collectors and buried at the refuse tip.

BAKEHOUSES—There are five in existence. As usual all these premises were periodically inspected.

ICE CREAM—Registered premises for manufacture or sale	...	31
Registered premises for sale only	... ..	29

FOOD (Preparation and Manufacture) Premises.

Registered premises for the preparation and manufacture of foods	11
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FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

The work of inspection of food premises continued during the year. During the year a report was made to the Council on conditions at 12 cafes in the town. As a result of this letters were written to the owners in 3 cases drawing attention to the Food Hygiene Regulations and requiring owners to co-operate with the Council in securing a better standard of food hygiene. In the case of one food premises legal action was taken and the case was brought before the Court on the 23rd October, 1964, when fines totalling £55 plus costs were imposed and the caterer was disqualified from participating in the management of a catering business for two years.

